

Approved For Release 2002/06/13 : CIA-RDP79T01049A000200070004-5



State Department review completed

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Project: 1P-154

OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

Project Initiation Memorandum

Date: 23 Aug 50

To: D/Pub

From: Publications Division, Projects Planning

Subject: Reuter's treatment of news concerning the US

Statement of Project

Origin: Internal

Problem: To examine Reuter's handling of news concerning the US to ascertain whether such news is "slanted" in a direction disfavored

Scope: do US interests.

The study includes comments by two regional divisions of ORE, and the results of a press scan by FDD

Graphics (if any): -

Form: Memorandum

Draft due in D/Pub: 23 Aug 50

Dissemination deadline
(if any):

Responsible Division: D/Pub to prepare memo

24 Aug 50

Internal Coordination: D/No & D/NE to contribute comments
FDD to make newspaper scan

Departmental responsibilities: None

Classification to be no higher than: Restricted

Recommended Dissemination: Requester only

State Department review completed

AD/ORE
D/PP
D/NE

D/No

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file (use this sheet for file copy)

1. Reuter's News Agency
2. Newspapers

Project: IP-154

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF REPORTS AND ESTIMATES
Project Initiation Memorandum

Date: 23 August 1950

To: D/Pub

From: Publications Division, Projects Planning

Subject: Reuter's treatment of news concerning the US

Statement of Project

Origin: Internal

Problem: To examine Reuter's handling of news concerning the US to ascertain whether such news is "slanted" in a direction detrimental to US interests.

Scope: The study includes comments by two regional divisions of ORE, and the result of a press scan by FDD

Graphics (if any):

Form: Memorandum

Dissemination deadline
(if any):

Draft due in D/Pub: 23 August 1950

24 August 1950

Responsible Division: D/Pub to prepare memorandum

Internal Coordination: D/No and D/NE to contribute comment,
FDD to make newspaper scan

Departmental responsibilities: None

Classification to be no higher than: Restricted

Recommended Dissemination:

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TRANSMITTAL SLIP		
<u>25 Aug</u> DATE		
TO:		
BUILDING <u>D/Pub</u> <u>cm</u>		ROOM NO.
REMARKS: <u>IR-154</u>		
FROM:		
BUILDING	ROOM NO.	EXTENSION

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SECRET

24 August 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: D/Pub, ORE

25X1A

ATTENTION :

SUBJECT : Reuter's News Agency

REFERENCE :

25X1A

1. This will confirm my telephone conversation of 18 August 1950 for information relative to the Reuter's News Agency and specifically for examples of slanted anti-US reporting especially in the Southeast Asia area.

2. The strenuous efforts made by your office to accomplish the above request within the limited period of time allowed you are deeply appreciated.

25X1A

SECRET

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

INSTRUCTIONS: Officer designations should be used in the "To" column. Under each comment a line should be drawn across sheet and each comment numbered to correspond with the number in the "To" column. Each officer should initial (Check mark insufficient) before further routing. This Record and Routing Sheet should be returned to Registry.

FROM:				NO. 30426	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 60px; height: 20px;"></div> 25X1A				DATE 24 August 1950	
TO	ROOM NO.	DATE		OFFICER'S INITIALS	COMMENTS
		REC'D	FWD'D		
1. D/Pub.ORE Att'n: <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 60px; height: 15px;"></div>					
2. 25X1A					
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23 August 1950

Reuter's treatment of news concerning the US.

1. This report on Reuter's handling of news concerning the US has been prepared in reply to your telephoned request of 21 August. Because of the limited time available it has not been possible to make as thorough an investigation of the problem as you doubtless would have desired, but I believe you may find these limited results of some value.

2. As you no doubt know, Reuter's News Agency is a British wire service in direct and acute competition with US press associations, and, as such, attempts to take advantage of any opportunities to outdo them. It is clearly possible that the bitter competition in this particular field of news reporting has led to mutual irritation and friction. It is also possible that through its handling of news items Reuter's attempts to discredit the US in the eyes of the Indian people as a matter of deliberate policy. Proof is difficult to find. This has been the subject of several New Delhi dispatches and telegrams to the State Department in the past 18 months, and the State Department is understood to be following the matter closely. (See Enclosure B)

3. To meet your inquiry, requests were made of D/No and D/NE in ORE and PDD in OO. Their replies are attached as Enclosures A through C.

4. The following general conclusions may be tentatively reached on the basis of the limited coverage attempted:

(a) In Southeast Asia and Africa Reuter's service is very little used. In most instances where it is used, reporting appears to have been factual and objective, with no noticeable "slanting". (See Enclosure A) On the other hand, the pro-Communist overseas Chinese press in Malaya appears to use Reuter's dispatches carrying material originally from Communist sources. (See Enclosure C, Attachment A)

(b) In India there is a decidedly less objective handling of news from Reuter's sources. This has been explained by Reuter's in London (see an enclosure to Enclosure B) as being due to the peculiar contractual relationship between Reuter's and PTI (Press Service of India), which allows PTI to use Reuter's wires to transmit news and other matter (apparently including Tass releases) from non-Reuter's sources in London.

5. Specific results of our hasty survey are contained in the enclosures. With respect to enclosure B, you are asked to return the cables and dispatches attached to it as enclosures at your earliest convenience. If copies of them

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are available to your office, their substitution for these is requested. With respect to Enclosure C, our request upon FDD was limited to the reporting of items dealing with the Korean war appearing in the second half of July.

Enclosures: A. Memorandum to D/Pub [] from D/No [] dated 23 August 1950.
B. Memorandum to [] dated 22 August 1950.
C. Memorandum (copy) to [] ORE from FDD, dated 23 August 1950.

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Enclosure A

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D/Pub

D/NO

23 August 1950

Reuters treatment of American participation in the fighting in Korea, as indicated in Reuters items appearing in the press of the Union of South Africa and of Ireland.

An analysis of Reuters news was made especially difficult in the few papers covered (Rand Daily Mail, The Natal Mercury, and The Irish Times) because of the rarity of the appearance of a Reuters item by itself. In the South African papers, Reuters is often just one of several news-gathering agencies credited for a given article. Insofar as Reuters news could be examined, no appreciable "slanting" could be discovered. An occasional item in describing an American defeat might be a bit more blunt in calling it a defeat than would American news agencies. In general, however, Reuters relied heavily upon the official news releases to describe the changing battle lines and troop movements. On at least one occasion Reuters appeared to go out of its way to justify an American withdrawal.

It may be remarked that Reuters is a wire agency in direct and acute competition with US Press Associations, and, as such, attempts to take advantage of any opportunities offered. For example, Reuter's releases are quite often timed for 7:30 PM, although the information would have been previously available except for the release time, thereby just coming within the deadline for British papers but not for the US press. Although there may perhaps be a political basis for Reuter's attitude, the existence of the strong competition in this particular field of newspaper reporting is bound to lead to a certain irritation and friction.

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Enclosure B

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22 August 1950

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Reuter News Reporting.

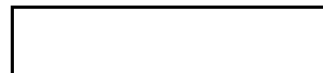
I refer to your conversation of yesterday regarding the nature of Reuter items.

It has long been common knowledge -- in my own experience for nine years -- that Reuter has persistently and consistently emphasized in its despatches from the US to the Indian sub-continent the most lurid and least flattering aspects of American life, and that even when the item is in itself not of a sensational nature the manner of presentation is often detrimental to US interests. The matter has to my personal knowledge been discussed with officials of Reuter (I am unable to give dates or names), who deny any anti-American slant and maintain regarding the subject matter of the items that Reuter as a business organization must provide its customers with the type of material most sought after; that the Indian press prefers sensational stories from America.

The objectionable features of Reuter's reporting are, however, so consistent that I personally am convinced, despite any arguments to the contrary by Reuter, that the organization, or at least many members of it, attempts to discredit the US in the eyes of Indians as a matter of deliberate policy. While as earlier intimated, Reuter's unsavory reputation from the point of view of US national interests is generally recognized in government circles, inquiry in the Department of State and search of our own files do not indicate that a collection of objectionable Reuter's items could be immediately assembled.

There are transmitted herewith such communications bearing on the matter as has been possible to find. It is requested that these communications be returned to my office.

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CHO:mjm

Enclosures. (not included)



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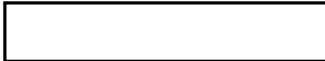
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ENCLOSURE C

C O P Y



ORIE

23 August 1950

F D D

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Reuter's treatment of Korea-US items.

1. In regard to the request for information substantiating or refuting the charge that Reuter's has been giving Korea-US news items unfavorable treatment, it can be stated in general that from a rather hasty perusal of the newspapers of Southeast Asia (except Burma, the Annamese newspapers of Indochina, and the Dutch-language newspapers of Indonesia), there is very little indication that the charge is true.

2. On the basis of a quick review and past experience, it appears that very few Reuter's dispatches are carried by newspapers in the Southeast Asian countries, with the exception of the overseas Chinese press. Items from the Indonesian-language newspapers in Indonesia (see Attachment B) which give the appearance of having an anti-US character cannot be properly evaluated without further information and more time. Unless an investigation of the sort requested is conducted over a longer period, the request cannot be fulfilled satisfactorily.

3. Attached are the results of the newspaper scan made of the Indonesian-language newspapers of Indonesia, the French-language newspapers of Indochina, the Thai-language newspapers, and the overseas Chinese press of Malaya for the last half of July 1950. Other Chinese papers for the same period were screened, but no Reuter's items were found. The results of the scan of Indian newspapers had not been reported at the time this material was forwarded.

Attachments: A. Overseas Chinese newspapers in Malaya
B. Indonesian-language newspapers in Indonesia
C. French-language newspapers in Indochina
D. Thai-language newspapers in Thailand

Rechecked, with scanning NEA papers in full, on 24 August. Results negative.

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Attachment A

Overseas Chinese newspapers in Malaya

Except for the headlines, which are sometimes a rather good indication of whether the paper's policy is anti- or pro-US, Reuter's dispatches in overseas Chinese newspapers appear to be factual presentations of Korean war news.

The Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao (Singapore) and the Hsien-tai Jih-pao (Penang), two pro-Communist newspapers, carry a great deal of Reuter's material. A good percentage of this has its source in Soviet, North Korean, and Chinese Communist radio broadcasts or press releases. The following are examples of Reuter's dispatches from these two papers:

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao, 27 July: Quotes Moscow press to the effect that Aly Khan is the "Syngman Rhee" of Pakistan.

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao, 29 July: P'yongyang Radio Incites Koreans in Japan to Rise Up against US.

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao, 31 July: Moscow broadcasts news from P'yongyang regarding land reform progress in liberated areas of South Korea.

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao, 31 July: Tass reports that US has established 58 concentration camps with 35,000 Koreans as prisoners and has committed atrocities, etc.

Hsien-tai Jih-pao, 26 July: Peking radio continues strong propaganda attack on US in various languages, concerning Korea and Taiwan.

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Attachment D

Indonesian-language newspapers in Indonesia

The latter half of July's Sin Po, Keng Po, Kedaulatan Rakyat, Merdeka, and Indonesia Timur were scanned. It can be said in general that very few Reuter's items are carried by Indonesian-language newspapers, which appear to depend largely upon AP, UP, Antara, and Aneta services. However, among the Reuter's dispatches carried, the following items were noted:

Indonesia Timur, 14 July: From the following title, it appears that the item is slightly anti-US: "No-Withdrawal Defense of US Pierced Again; US Rockets Ineffective Against North Korean Tanks". [Comment from REL: I seem to recall having seen very similar headlines in US press about that time.]

Indonesia Timur, 20 July: In an item titled "US Troops Strengthening Position Around Taejon", the text is factual reporting except for the news dealing with the defeat of US forces and capture of prisoners and equipment, which is highlighted by bold face type. This would appear to indicate an anti-US editorial policy, but would not necessarily be a reflection on Reuter's reporting.

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Attachment C

French-language newspapers in Indochina

In a survey of the following French-language newspapers in Indochina, no Reuter's dispatches were found:

La Liberté (Phnom Penh)	19-32 July
Cambodge (Phnom Penh)	19-25 July
Le Redressement National (Phnom Penh)	19 July
L'Echo du Viet-Nam (Saigon)	21-23 July
L'Union Francaise (Saigon)	22-28 July
Le Journal d'Extreme Orient (Saigon)	24-28 July

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Attachment D

Thai-language newspapers in Thailand

The following Thai newspapers were checked for Reuter's dispatches on the Korean war:

Prachakon (July 21, 22, 24-28, 31; August 1)
Mekhon San (July 28, 31; August 1, 2)
Siam Nikon (July 15, 18-22, 24-27, 31)
Phin Thai (July 14-16, 18-22, 25-28, 30)

No straight Reuter's dispatch on the Korean war was found. However, an article in the 1 August issue of Mekhon San quoted a Reuter's dispatch as saying that foreign residents of Shanghai fear that the Korean war will spread when the UN forces take the offensive, since at that time North Korea will doubtless call on its friends for aid. Apparently still quoting from the Reuter's dispatch, the article goes on to state that the attitude of North Korea's allies will determine whether or not the war spreads. By placing responsibility for the possible spread of the war on North Korea's allies, the article seems to have a pro-US slant.

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Return to CIA Library

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AMERICAN EMBASSY

New Delhi, India, March 28, 1949

Subject: Reuter's Treatment of Washington News Items

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

Sir:

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APR. 25
ACTION
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ECA

I have the honor to call attention to two news stories datelined Washington, March 25 and widely disseminated in India by the Press Trust of India - Reuter's Service. In each case the treatment given by Reuter's is such that a reaction unfavorable to the United States might arise in the minds of Indian readers. The news stories in question are first the announcement from Washington of the new ECA development division and secondly, an alleged decision on the part of the US not to enter into further regional pacts. The Reuter's LTI report on both these matters is enclosed as well as the text of the official Departmental release on the ECA development division.

The contrast between the text of the ECA release as officially disseminated by USIA from Washington and as reported by Reuter's is quite interesting:

Reuter's states that the new development division's program is to aid European recovery by utilizing the colonial resources of Marshall Plan countries. The official text states that the object is to help Marshall Plan countries promote the growth of their underdeveloped territories.

C

Reuter's states that the program would try to uncover badly needed supplies of strategic materials in Europe's colonial territories including manganese, tungsten, etc. The official text says that the first task is to help eliminate disease and improve health standards in underdeveloped areas and that the primary problem is to raise the standard of living.

Reuter's quotes Mr. Howard Bruce, Deputy Administrator of ECA, as saying that "We are now prepared to move ahead rapidly". According to the official text, Mr. Bruce emphasized that the program is still in the "thinking stage and definite projects are to be worked out".

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It is clear from the Departmental release enclosed herewith that the Economic Cooperation Administration has organized a new division with the stated purpose of working out programs for the assistance of underdeveloped dependent areas. Yet Reuter's treatment of this announcement might suggest to Asian readers that the new division was created to aid the metropolitan powers and also the United States, to exploit colonial areas and that its alleged interest in strategic raw materials was somehow related to preparation for a war. It will be recalled in this connection that Prime Minister Nehru has twice repeated in addresses on foreign policy during March that today few international issues were being dealt with on merit but reflected instead a certain maneuvering for position in preparation for a future war. It would not be surprising then if Indian readers of the story as reported by Reuter's framed an unfavorable opinion of the new division of ECA, and organization from which so much is hoped for the rehabilitation of Europe, including Britain.

The second Reuter's story attributes to "North Atlantic diplomats" the view that the Atlantic Pact covers threats to their security from developments in any part of the world. It would be unfair to conclude that the Reuter's correspondent who wrote the foregoing intended to suggest to Asian readers the thought that possibly under certain circumstances a Conference of Atlantic Pact Powers might be called to discuss and to take a hand in settling Asian problems and to do so even though these problems might relate to independent countries of Asia such as Burma or Siam. The sensitivity of Burma in this regard, may be gauged by the reaction there to the well-meaning efforts of the Commonwealth countries in their recent talks at Delhi to bring about more orderly conditions in that country. Indian opinion would be understandably opposed to any effort on the part of the Atlantic Pact powers acting together to deal with Asian problems. In this connection one needs only to recall the reactions in Asia to the actions in Indonesia of the Netherlands, a signatory of the Atlantic Pact. Under these circumstances it may be wondered what may have induced Reuter's correspondent to extend with so little warrant the possible application of the Atlantic Pact.

It would have been more advantageous not only from the stand point of US interest in friendly relations with India and Asia as a whole but also from the stand point of the similar interests which the UK and other Western European powers have here if the Reuter's presentation of these subjects had been somewhat more factual or had been balanced by the dissemination of the same news by other press agencies as well. Unfortunately such dissemination by other agencies

including

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New Delhi, India
Despatch No. 273
March 28, 1949

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- 3 -

including the Associated Press and the United Press is not possible in view of the privileged, even monopolistic, position which Reuter's enjoys in India. It does not seem likely, judging from the past, that Reuter's will use this position to contribute to the development of understanding and good feeling between the US and India. In fact Reuter's sometimes slants its stories in a manner not likely to strengthen the friendly relationship which exists between the US and the UK. In this connection it might be noted that at the time of Cardinal Mindzenty's trial the opinion was expressed by several persons in New Delhi, most notably by the Counselor of the Apostolic Internunciature, that Reuter's stories on this subject were in effect disguised Communist propaganda (Embassy's despatch no. 145, February 11, 1949).

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador

Howard Donovan
Counselor of Embassy

Enclosure:

1. Reuter's news item
2. Reuter's news item
3. USIS release

JGParsons:sm

To Department in original and hectograph

Copy to:

Embassy, London
Consulates General, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras

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Enclosure No. 1 to Despatch No. 273 dated March 28, 1949
from American Embassy, New Delhi, India entitled "Reuter's
Treatment of Washington News Items".

National Call

March 25, 1949

PROGRAMME FOR DEVELOPMENT OF COLONIAL RESOURCES

WASHINGTON, March 25. An expanded programme to aid European recovery by unlocking the colonial resources of Marshall Plan countries has been set in motion.

Mr. Howard Bruce, Deputy of the Economic Cooperation Administration announced on Wednesday night that a colonial development division had been established and would be headed by Dr. Isiah Bowman, former President of the John Hopkins University, Baltimore.

The proposal was designed to carry out President Truman's call for development of backward areas with the aid of American industrial knowledge and private investment.

Mr. Bruce told reporters "We are now prepared to move ahead rapidly."

The programme would try to provide new sources of raw material in Europe's colonial territories - notably in Africa and the Far East - as well as uncover badly needed supplies of strategic materials such as manganese, tin iron ore and tungsten.

As head of the new ECA colonial division, Dr. Bowman will be assisted by Mr. Harlan Cleveland, Director of the China Aid Programme.

A five-man advisory committee will assist in formulating policies and approving specific development projects - PFI-Reuter

Enclosure No. 2 to Despatch No. 273 dated March 28, 1949 from American Embassy, New Delhi, India entitled "Reuter's Treatment of Washington News Items".

National Call

March 25, 1949

UNITED STATES NOT ENTER INTO FURTHER
REGIONAL PACTS

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25 - The United States does not intend to participate in the foreseeable future in further regional pacts - either for the Mediterranean or Far Eastern areas - to supplement the North Atlantic Treaty of mutual defence it is learned authoritatively.

North Atlantic diplomats here yesterday also declared categorically that no further regional pacts to back up the treaty were contemplated, under discussion or planned. Consensus of opinion in these circles appears to be that the terms and implications of the North Atlantic Treaty make such regional pacts unnecessary.

These diplomats have in mind particularly Article of the treaty which extends the field of consultation between the North Atlantic Powers potentially to the world.

This article is understood to cover threats to the security of any of the North Atlantic Powers through developments in any part of the world. Thus if developments in South East Asia - in Burma, Siam or French Indo-China - led Britain, France or the United States to the opinion that its security was threatened in that area, it could call a conference of the Atlantic Powers.

Such consultation does not involve an obligation to action automatically but the possibility of the North Atlantic Powers deciding to act is not precluded nor is the possibility of military action under Article 4, through the co-ordinated defence system of the North Atlantic Powers excluded - PTH-Reuter

Enclosure No. 3 to Despatch No. 273 dated March 28, 1949
from American Embassy, New Delhi, India entitled "Reuter's
Treatment of Washington News Items".

DWB 60

Territorial Development Aim of New ECA Unit.

Washington, March 24.

To help European Recovery Program countries promote the growth of their under-developed territories, the U.S. Economic Cooperation Administration has set up a development division which is expected to be in operation in about six months.

First task of the new division will be to help eliminate disease and improve health standards in under-developed areas, according to Deputy ECA administrator, Howard Bruce, who announced formation of the development unit.

He emphasized that the program is still in the "thinking stage and definite projects are to be worked out.

The primary problem in the areas involved is to raise the standard of living, Bruce told newsmen. To do this, he said, "We must find out what there is to produce."

ECA already has earmarked 1.5 million dollars for development of British areas in Africa, Southeast Asia and British Guiana.

Dr. Isaiah Bowman, former president of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, will direct the new ECA division.

To: Chief, BF

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23 August 1950

Approved For Release 2002/06/13 : CIA-RDP79T01049A000200070004-5

From: Acting Chief South Asia Section

Subject: Reuter's Treatment of Korea-US items

25X1

~~It is requested that the following information be provided to the~~

~~that the~~

1. In regard to the request ^{for} to collect any information substantiating or (news items) refuting the charge that Reuter~~s~~ has been giving Korea-US ~~coverage~~ unfavorable treatment, it can be ~~st~~ stated in general that from a rather hastily perusal of the newspapers of Southeast Asia (except Burma, Annamese language newspapers of Indochina, Dutch language newspapers of Indonesia) *under the conditions described in paragraph 2,* there are very little indications that the charges are true. ~~Even the~~

items from Indonesian language newspapers (see attachments) ~~which~~ that ~~XXXXX~~ give appearance of anti-US nature can not be properly evaluated without further information and time.

2. ~~Again~~ ^{it appears that} from a quick perusal and past experience, very few Reuter ~~items~~ ~~XXXXX~~ dispatches are carried by newspapers in the Southeast Asian countries. *(with the exception of the overseas Chinese press.)* So that unless collection of the type of information requested is conducted over a longer period of time the request can not be fulfilled satisfactorily. *(During period from first half of July).* ^{newspaper} ~~XXXXX~~ ^{1.} ~~XXXXX~~ ^{2.}

3. Attached are the results of the ^{newspaper} scanned made ~~by~~ of the Indonesian language newspapers, French language newspapers of Indochina, Thai language newspapers, and the Overseas Chinese press of Malaya.

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*Reuters
dispatches*

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao (Singapore), 27 Jul: Quotes Moscow press to effect that Aly Khan is "Syngman Rhee" of Pakistan.

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao, 29 Jul: P'yongyang Radio Incites Koreans in Japan to rise up against US.

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao, 31 Jul: Moscow broadcasts news from P'yongyang regarding land reform progress in liberated areas of South Korea.

Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao, 31 Jul: Tass reports that US has established 58 concentration camps with 38,000 Koreans as prisoners and has committed atrocities, etc.

Hsien-tai Jih-pao, (Penang), 26 Jul: Peking Radio continues strong propaganda attack on US in various languages, concerning Korea and Taiwan.

---see above

Except for the headlines ~~from some overseas Chinese newspapers~~
(which are ^{some times} a rather good indication of whether the paper's policy is anti or pro US), Reuters dispatches in overseas Chinese newspapers appear to be factual presentation of Korean war news.

The Nan-ch'iao Jih-pao (Singapore) and the Hsien-tai Jih-pao (Penang), two pro-Communist papers, carry a great deal of Reuters material. A good percentage of this has its source in Soviet, North Korean and Chinese Communist radio broadcasts or press releases.

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India answer



INDONESIA-REUTERS

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(Among the Reuters dispatches carried)
The last half of July's Sin Po, Heng Po, Kedaulatan Rakjat, Merdeka,
Indonesia Timur were ^{scanned} sent for Reuter items dealing with the Korean war
and the US.

It can be said in general that very few Reuter items are carried by
Indonesian language newspapers which usually appear to depend largely on
AP, UP, Ansaara, and Aneta services. However, ^{Reuter} the following items were
noted with regard to the request:

Indonesia Timur, 14 July 50-- From the following title it appears that the
item is slightly anti-US: "No Withdrawal" ⁹ "Refense" of US Pierced Again; US
Rockets Ineffective Against North Korean Tanks.

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Indonesia Timur, 20 July 50:--In an item titled " US Troops Strengthening
Position Around Tamjon", the text is factual reporting except for the news
dealing with the defeat of US forces and capture of prisoners and equipt
~~ment~~ ment which is highlighted by bold face type. This would appear to
be anti-US in nature.

~~20x0x0x0x0x~~

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French - Indochina

Reuters.

Approved For Release 2002/06/13 : CIA-RDP79T01049A000200070004-5

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In a survey of the following French language newspapers published in Indochina, no Reuters' dispatches were found:

La Liberte	Phnom Penh	19-22 July
Cambodge	Phnom Penh	19-25 July
L'Echo du Viet-Nam	Saigon	21-28 July
Saigon Presse	Saigon	21-28 July
L'Union Francaise	Saigon	22-28 July
Le Journal d'Extrême Orient	Saigon	24-28 July
Le Redressement National	Phnom Penh	19 July

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Thai newspapers checked for Reuters' dispatch on Korean war:

Prachakon 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 31 July, 1 August

Nakhon San 28, 31, July, 1, 2 August

Siam Nikon 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 27, 31 July

Phim Thai 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30 July

No Reuters dispatch on the Korean war was found.

However, an article in the 1 August issue of Nakhon

San quoted a Reuters dispatch as stating that

foreign residents of Shanghai fear that the Korean war

will spread when the UN forces take the offensive,

since at that time North Korea will doubtless

call on its friends for aid. Apparently still quoting

from the Reuters dispatch, the article further states

that the attitude of North Korea's allies will determine

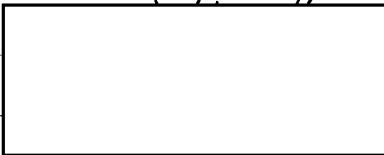

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whether or not the war spreads.

By placing responsibility for the possible spread of the war on North Korea's allies, the article seems to have a pro-US slant.

Chinese papers for same period were screened but no Reuters items were found.

India handled by another Branch of SF. If there is a report
Will contact  

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